Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA)

Serving Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families,
with Justice, Equity, and Compassion

Mission and Functions

- **The Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA) in Arlington, Virginia decides over 22,600 administrative cases annually for the Secretary of the Army through its 14 component boards for Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families with justice, equity, and compassion in order to maintain trust with the American people.**

- **ARBA is authorized 135 personnel (119 civilians and 16 military) with 120 DA senior civilian volunteer board members for the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR).**

- **Makes decisions based on the individual merits of each case.**
- **Presents decisions in a clear and concise response**

ARBA Principles

Trust is the bedrock upon which we ground our relationship with the American people. Trust reflects the confidence and faith that the American people have in the Army to effectively and ethically serve the nation, while resting easy that the Army is no threat to them.

ADRP 1 The Army Profession-Initial Draft 25 Sep 2012

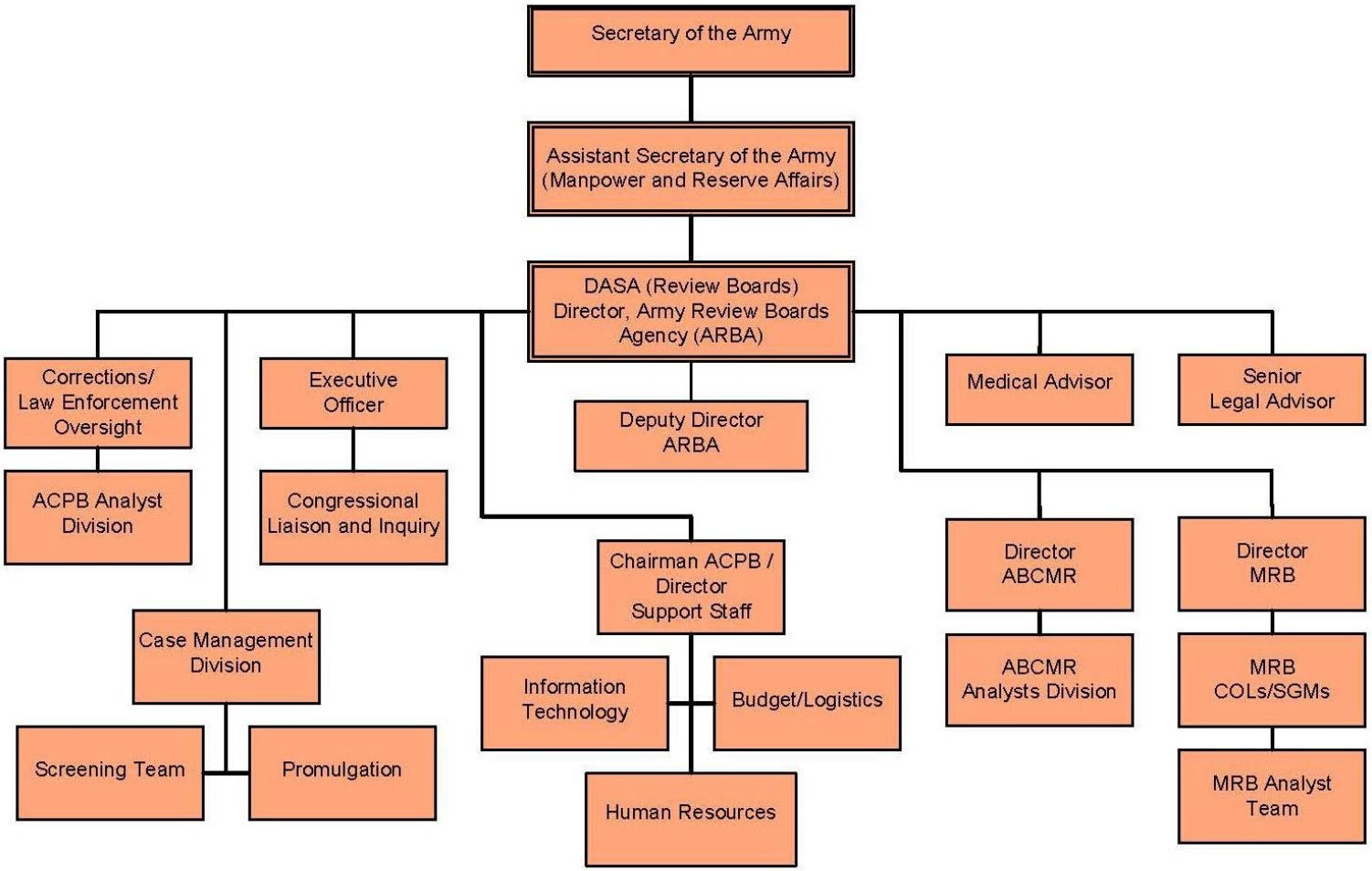
- **As a Field Operating Agency reporting to the Secretary of the Army, ARBA assists in self-regulating the Army to maintain trust with Soldiers, Veterans, their Families and ultimately the American people.**
- **Applies Army Values and Regulations consistently across the Army in board decisions.**
- **Every applicant's issues are analyzed and reviewed in a fair, objective manner.**
- **Treats all applicants with dignity and respect.**

Army Values
Loyalty
Duty
Respect
Selfless Service
Honor
Integrity
Personal Courage

FY 15 Priorities

- **Meet and exceed Congressional Mandate for case processing time (90% within 10 months – 100% within 18 months)**
- **Support Secretary of the Army and ASA (M&RA) priorities and initiatives**
- **Proactively pursue legislative and regulatory changes to improve our service to customers**
- **Complete contract in support of business process analysis and improvements**
- **Complete new ACTS contract**
- **Trend analysis of cases and systemic corrective actions**
- **Outreach and responsiveness to Congress, Veterans' Organizations, and Army Commands**
- **Maintain accreditation of Army Clemency and Parole Board**

ARMY REVIEW BOARDS AGENCY



ARBA Boards

- Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR)
- Army Discharge Review Board (ADRB)
- Army Grade Determination Review Board (AGDRB)
- Army Board of Review for Eliminations (ABRE)
- Army Ad Hoc Board (AAHB)
- Army Active Duty Board (OTRA Officers) (AABB)
- Army Special Review Board (ASRB) – evaluations
- DA Suitability Evaluation Board (DASEB)
- DA Conscientious Objector Review Board (DACORB)
- Army Physical Disability Appeal Board (APDAB)
- Army Physical Disability Review Board (APDRB)
- Army Disability Rating Review Board (ADRRB)
- Interment, Inurnment, & Memorialization Review Board (IIMRB)
- Army Clemency and Parole Board (ACPB)
- (Army Decision Authority for DoD Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR))

Military Review Boards (MRB)

Procedural Highlights - Most Boards

1. **Soldier/Veteran/Family Member submits an application:**
   - **Applicant bears the burden of proof**
   - **Must exhaust other administrative remedies**
2. **ARBA Staff analyzes the case:**
   - **Presumption of administrative regularity**
   - **Boards are not investigative bodies**
   - **Assembles facts from military records, advisory opinions, applicant's supporting evidence, regulations, and laws**
   - **Some cases are administratively closed if there are no records, case is not appropriate for Board review, or issue can be corrected administratively**
3. **Staff analysis and case materials are submitted to a Board for consideration and vote**

Army Board for Correction of Military Records

Board of 3 DA Senior Civilians

- The highest administrative board in the Army established by Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552 to correct errors and injustices in military records.

Army Administrative "Supreme Court"

- Awards
- Separations
- Promotions
- Retirements
- Disabilities
- Evaluation Reports
- Pay and Allowances
- Survivor Benefit Plans
- Homes of Record
- Titling Decisions
- Clemency Petitions
- Memoranda of Reprimand

16,480 Cases in FY14

Army Discharge Review Board

Board of 5 Colonels/Lieutenant Colonels

- **Established by Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1553 to review discharges of former Soldiers:**
  - **For propriety and equity**
  - **15-year statute of limitations**
  - **Excludes General Court Martial discha and disability separations**

- **Procedures include:**
  - **Personal appearance and records revi**
  - **Priority processing for Army diagnose**

  on the Board

- **Factors commonly considered by the Board:**
  - **Propriety: due process, limited use**
  - **Equity: characterization to PTSD contributed**

2,724 Cases in FY14

Other Military Review Boards

Board of 3 Colonels / Sergeants Major

- **Army Special Review Board (ASRB)**
  - Enlisted Evaluation Appeals
  - Officer Evaluation Appeals

128 Enlisted Cases
131 Officer Cases
573 Cases in FY14

- **DA Suitability Evaluation**
  B
  filing appeals

Board of 3 Colonels, 1 Attorney, and 1 Chaplain

- **DA Conscientious Objector Review Board (DACORB)**
  - Category 1-O = separation
  - Category 1-A-O = reassignment to non-combatant duties

15 Cases in FY14

Grade Determination & Officer Separation Boards

Board of 3 Colonels or General Officers

- **Army Grade Determination Review Board**

  Determines highest grade in which a member served satisfactorily:

  - Enlisted Soldiers/warrant officers after serving

  30 total years on active and

  - Officer grade at time of retirement

  - At separation for disability

719 Cases FY14

rade Determination & Officer Separation Boar

Board of 3 Colonels

- **Army Board of Review for Eliminations**
  - Reviews records and briefs of officers who have been recommended for elimination for misconduct or substandard performance by Boards of Inquiry in the field
  - Effective 20 Sep 2013, new cases Ad Hoc Board

156 Cases FY14

- **Army Ad Hoc Board**
  - Officer resignations for the good of the service in lieu of general court-mar
  - Resignations/discharges in lieu of elimination
  - Probationary officer elimination cases

379 Cases FY14

Legal and Medical Special Staff

Senior Legal Advisor, 3 Legal Advisors, I Paralegal

- Provides legal review and advisory opinions on cases
- Administers grade determination and officer elimination Boards
- Voting member on Army Clemency and Parole Board
- Action Officer on issues of legislation, law, and related functions
- Acts on Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests and issues
- Provi

Medical Advisor and Assistant Advisor

- Provides medical review and advisory opinions on cases
- Serves as medical advisor on Army Discharge Review Boards involving medical issues (PTSD, etc.)
- Conducts the Army Physical Disability Appeals Board
- Action Officer on medical and disability issues
- Provides DASA medical advice

Disability Boards

Board of 3 Colonels / Lieutenant Colonels (1-2 Medical Corps)

- **Army Physical Disability Appeal Board (APDAB)**
  Adjudicates disability ratings given active duty Soldiers in the disability pipeline referred from the Physical Disability Agency (PDA)

- **Army Physical Disability Review Board (APDRB)**
  Reviews claims by Soldiers retired or released from active duty without pay for physical disability; 15 year statue of limitation

- **Army Disability Rating Review Board (ADRRB)**
  Hears petitions from retired Soldiers (retired less than five years) for relief pertaining to percentag disability

Total = 11 Cases in FY14

Disability Boards

DASA (Review Boards) is the Decision Authority for Army Case Recommendations from the DoD Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR)

- **Service members who were medically separated between 11 September 2001 and 31 December 2009, with a combined disability rating of 20% or less and not found eligible for retirement.**
- **PDBR staffed by medical and board members from all services**
- **Administrative support for the PDBR provided by US Air Force**
- **US Army PDA takes corrective a DASA(RB)**
- **3,803 cases total as of 30 June 2015**

Total = 456 Cases in FY14

Army Clemency and Parole Board

- **Conduct hearings for Army prisoners:**
  - Parole (10 USC 952)
  - Clemency (10 USC 874 & 953)
  - Restoration to Duty (10 USC 953)
  - Mandatory Supervised Release (DoDI 1325.07)

Civilian Chair
3 Colonels/Lieutenant Colonels
Legal Advisor

- **Review / approve transfers to the Federal Bureau of Prisons**
  - No death sentence or high profile prisoners
  - Must be discharged
  - Must have a year remaining on sentence

- **Manage supervisees in coordination with U.S. Probation Officers**
  - Track compliance; modify conditions
  - Impose sanctions; issue warrants; revoke supervision

- **Support victims and encourage their participation in the clemency and parole process**
  - Victim impact statements
  - Personal appearances

- Processed 920 cases in FY14

Corrections and Law Enforcement Oversight

- **Provides SA Oversight of Army Corrections (Prisons) and Law Enforcement Systems**
- **Provides DASA advise on all corrections and law enforcement issues**
- **Coordinates all agreements with outside corrections agencies**
- **Action Officer on issues of corrections and law enforcement functions**
- **Manages Army American Correctional Association Accreditation Program**
- **Coordinates SA approval for transfer of prisoners to Federal Bureau of Prisons**
- **Conducts technical assistance visits of Army Correctional facilities**

Online Resources

- **ARBA Website: *http://arba.army.pentagon.mil***
  - **Information on ARBA Boards and applicant procedures**
  - **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers; ABCMR Applicant's Guide**
  - **Printable DD Form 149 (ABCMR) and DD Form 293 (ADRB)**
  - **ONLINE APPLICATION for ABCMR and ADRB!!**

- **Online Application: *http://actsonline.army.mil***
  - **Apply electronically to ABCMR and ADRB**
  - **Guides applicants through the process and provides helps**
  - **Signature page is printed at the end of the online application,**
    signed and mailed to ARBA with supporting documents
  - **Applicants can check application status online**

- **ARBA Case Tracking System (ACTS)**
  - **Case tracking and management**

Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA)

Serving Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families,
with Justice, Equity, and Compassion

Expanded Mission Information Slide

- **The Army Review Boards Agency (ARBA) in Arlington, Virginia decides over 22,600 administrative cases annually through its 14 component boards for Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families with justice, equity, and compassion in order to maintain trust with the American people.**
- **The Agency is a Field Operating Agency (FOA) of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASA M&RA). ARBA serves as the highest administrative echelon in the Army on behalf of the Secretary of the Army for redress within the Department of the Army.**
- **The Boards were established within the Office of the Secretary of the Army pursuant to the provisions of 10, US Code, sections 874, 951, 952, 953, 1552, 1553, and 1554. By statute, ARBA is required to operate as a FOA with objective and separate authority relative to the Commands. ARBA is**